

STAHL'S APPEAL MAY PRECIPITATE A BASEBALL WAR

BASEBALL WAR IF JOHNSON BACKS STAHL

IS UMPIRING HERE

EPISCOPAL HIGH SCHOOL HOPES TO BEAT CENTRAL

SAM EMERY BACK ON TURF AGAIN

His Obstinacy Threatens Serious Breach in National Commission Unless American League Owners Call a Halt—Reasonable Kicking in Opening Game.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

That the peace of the baseball world is seriously menaced at the present time does not appear to have been realized by those who read Garry Herrmann's telegram of Saturday night saying that as chairman of the national commission he had not been able to get his colleagues to vote on Jake Stahl's appeal to the commission to have Washington sell or trade him.

Herrmann's telegram is a polite way of doling the issue. As a matter of fact, Herrmann is convinced that there is absolutely nothing in Stahl's appeal, and it is believed on very good grounds that Harry Pulliam, president of the National League, another member of the commission, thinks the same way. The only vote Stahl would get would be from Ban Johnson, the third member, president of the American League, who is accused by the Washington club owners of having deliberately framed it up with Stahl to deprive one of the clubs in his circuit of a valuable asset.

Game in Danger.

Johnson's vote was thus probably predetermined before he went to the commission meeting in Cincinnati a week from last Saturday. He is believed to have inspired the appeal, and would naturally vote for it. Herrmann is directly opposed to the whole thing. Pulliam was not at the meeting.

Johnson, with his usual blustering, bulldozing method, is now holding out and demanding that the commission make a ruling which would strike a blow at the root of the reserve system and tend to throw the game into the chaotic state which prevailed before organized baseball came into existence and when the players were free to go from one club to another. Herrmann and Pulliam, being endowed with human intelligence and sportsmanship, are not inclined to be misled by the foolery of the gratification of Johnson's vanity and desire to butt into the affairs of every club in the country, regardless of the fans, the players, or the men who have their money invested.

Other Two Show Intelligence.

Ordinarily, Herrmann and Pulliam would simply get together, exercise that human intelligence with which they are blessed, outvote Johnson, squash Stahl's appeal, and let it go at that, the public being unaware that Johnson had tried to make the commission ridiculous, but The Times exposed Johnson's hand in an exclusive story from Cincinnati last Monday. Now Herrmann and Pulliam are anxious to keep the peace and let Johnson down gracefully, hence they ask whether the club and Stahl can patch up their differences without the necessity for a formal decision from the supreme baseball tribunal. But Johnson can't see that and is still holding to his original position of forcing through for his own personal gratification an appeal which menaces the sport.

Baseball law is a thing apart, and it is a safe bet that a fair proportion of the decisions of the National Commission would not stand in the courts of the land. This is well known, and for years it has been the policy of players and owners to avoid whenever possible any appeal to the courts, all hands preferring to settle their differences among themselves in a sportsmanlike way. Johnson knows this, but is not influenced by any ordinary human considerations, and it is the general opinion in Washington that in order to carry his point and bend the Washington club to his will he would not hesitate to disrupt the National Commission, throw all baseball squabbles into the courts and precipitate a general and ruinous war—if the club owners in the American League are idiotic enough to keep him in his job as president and give him an opportunity for such a step.

Will Owners Lick His Hand?

Washington, Chicago, St. Louis, Boston, and Detroit, have all had bitter experiences with Johnson's browbeating and the followers of the game are wondering whether or not the owners of the franchises in these cities are willing to sacrifice not only their property but their self-respect in order to tickle the conceit of their high-salaried employee who demands that they look like a lot of whipped children in the eyes of the public.

While no one wants to see a return to the old days when every baseball game was delayed and likely to degenerate into a riot because the players made a row over every close decision by the umpire, yet there are times when a protest or an explanation is reasonable and should receive attention. Such a time was that on the opening day in Washington, when a ball was hit deep into left field and was kicked at by one of the spectators. The grand rule called for two bases on a ball into the crowd, and Anderson, in left for Washington, claimed that this particular hit should go for only two bags. Anderson and Captain Schlafly protested to Umpire Connolly. He heard them out, and then decided against them. It was a question of evidence, and fair play demanded that the arbitrator hear the facts from those who could see exactly what took place. Clark Griffith said after the game that the spectator never reached the ball with his foot, but that a root of the tree in left field caused the sudden deflection which created the impression in the grandstand that there had been interference by a fan.

The necessity for a capable utility outfielder was never better demonstrated than in that cold-storage battle between the Nationals and the Yanks on Saturday. When Umpire Connolly put Elberfeld out of the game in the first inning for subparous back talk, Griffith, because of the absence of Hal Chase, who was on his way from California to join the team and reached here yesterday, was forced to bring Wild Conroy in from left field to shortstop. There was no outfielder for New York, and the only alternative was to send Brock, the hardest-hitting pitcher, out into that meadow. This change caused a slip-up and lost the game for the Outlanders. Griffith, although an excellent infielder, had been working in the outfield all spring, and lack of practice in the diamond made him anything but reliable. He fumbled the first ball hit to him, and the misplay cost his team the game, as a run resulted. Had Chase been with the team, Moriarty would have been available to substitute for Elberfeld, but even now, if an outfielder were to be disabled Griffith would have a hard row to hold, as he has no man with the team who is familiar with the position.

Griffith has conceded Delehanly, his hold-out outfielder, a \$300 raise over last season, and Del offered to join the team and get into position, but Griffith wired him that he would not let him put on the payroll until he reported in at second base, as he reports the fox will have to worry along with his present equipment of three outfielders.

Norman Elberfeld has a badly swollen thumb, the result of a contact with Schlafly's Cinderella when the latter slid into second and stole a base in the opening game. Before the set-to on Saturday, Elberfeld's digit was in bad shape. He was asked by a Times reporter whether he would play in Saturday's game. He replied that he would, but that if he was working for anyone but Griffith he could not be drawn into the game with a mule team. They say the kid used to be a hard man to handle because of his temper, but now is no different, the fact that he and Griffith pulled together.

As it was, Elberfeld's loyalty to his club did not avail him. The Times reporter could not resist the temptation to tell Connolly things when he struck out in the first inning. Elberfeld claims that he did not hit him, but he is entitled to take his first base. The ball did hit him. There is no doubt about that, but when he was hit the ball was over the plate and Elberfeld apparently intentionally placed himself in front of it. Connolly's decision in calling him out was eminently proper.

BROUGHT DIVORCE SUIT TO PROVE WIFE DEAD

CHICAGO, April 15.—August F. Pankin, a butcher, of 869 North Kenzie avenue, brought suit for divorce from his wife, Ida Pankin, to learn if she was dead. He believed she was, although her family thought differently. Pankin proved himself wrong, as his wife answered with a counter bill and asks for the custody of their three children. August and his brother, John Pankin, a butcher, on West North avenue, married sisters eleven years ago. August became ill after he had prospered with his meat market, and he moved to Waukegan, Ind. There he says, he and his wife quarreled. He gave her one-third of the proceeds of the sale of his shop. She left, taking a daughter and a son, and leaving a baby boy with her husband. Pankin did not know where his wife had gone, and believed her dead until she answered the advertised suit for divorce with a counter bill charging cruelty.

S.S.S. PURIFIES THE BLOOD

There is no other part of our physical system upon which so much depends as upon the blood. The muscles, nerves, bones, sinews, skin, and other portions of the body are sustained and enabled to perform their different duties, because they are supplied with nourishment and healthful properties through the circulation. In various ways the blood becomes contaminated and polluted. A sluggish, inactive condition of the system, and torpid state of the avenues of bodily waste, will leave the refuse and waste matter of the body to sour and form uric and other acids, which are absorbed into the blood and Rheumatism, or some itching, disfiguring skin disease is the result. Muddy, sallow complexions, eruptions, spots, pimples, etc., all show that some humor has taken root in the circulation and rendered it sour and unfit for nourishing the body. There is scarcely any disease which cannot be traced to the blood. Often the disease-tainted blood of parents is handed down to children and their lives are a continual battle against disease in some form, usually of a scrofulous nature. Rheumatism, Catarrh, Skin Diseases, Sores and Ulcers, Contagious Blood Poison, etc., are all deep-seated blood troubles, and until this vital fluid is purified they cannot be cured. For all blood diseases S. S. S. is the best remedy ever put upon the market. This great medicine is made of roots, herbs and barks of recognized blood-purifying and building-up properties. It goes down into the circulation and removes all poisons, impurities and humors, supplies the blood with the healthful properties it needs and completely cures blood diseases of every kind. S. S. S. cures Rheumatism, Catarrh, Scrofula, Skin Diseases, Sores and Ulcers, Contagious Blood Poison, etc., because it purifies the blood. Blood and medical advice free.

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TOM CONNOLLY.
He Put Elberfeld Out of the Game on Saturday.

MICHAEL QUALIFIES FOR WESTERN SQUAD

WASHINGTON CHESS PLAYERS ACTIVE

Passes Examination and May Pitch in High School Championship.

All Western High School is rejoicing. Captain Michael has passed off his conditions and will be able to pitch in the championship games provided his sore knee does not trouble him. The new rules as adopted at the last meeting of the High School athletic advisors state that a man can not play in any game representing the school if he carries a condition. An exception was allowed this rule. As the report issued was only an advisory report, the student may play with the consent of the teacher. Captain Michael satisfied his by taking an examination and passing his subject.

Michael is considered one of the best men on the High School diamond. Together with Catcher Radford, of his team, he made the all-high school battery which went up to Princeton last year and beat their freshmen. As the prospects were exceedingly bright this year for developing a champion team under the coaching of Jim Sprigman, formerly of Central, the statement that Michael would be unable to play cast a damper on the team. The team, however, has been playing good ball and has won every game played this year. It took a trip to the Maryland Agricultural College last week and beat the Farmers by 1 to 0. Tech's score against the Farmers was 7 to 4.

SPALDING'S LAWN TENNIS GUIDE ON THE MARKET

Spalding's Official Lawn Tennis Annual for 1907 has just been published in the Spalding's Athletic Library series. The contents comprise a timely article, with illustrations, on the "Lawn Tennis Cabinet" of the present Administration; the official rules for 1907, pictures of leading players, and a long list of interesting subjects.

Spalding's Official Lawn Tennis Annual is for sale by all newsdealers or will be sent to any address on receipt of 10 cents by the American Sports Publishing Company, 21 Warren street, New York city.

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Alexandrians Have First-Class Men to Send to Dual Meet Which Takes Place at Van Ness Park Next Month.

Considerable interest is being taken at Episcopal High School, of Alexandria, in the dual meet which is to be held early in May between the Alexandria institution and the Central High School, of this city, at Van Ness Park. The Alexandrians are training hard for the meet, and are determined to give their opponents a hard rub for first honors. In Charrington, the Episcopians have an excellent high jumper, high hurdler and pole vaulter, and it is doubtful if Central has a man who can best him in any of these events. The red-and-black's main dependence in the middle distance runs will be Latane, who has run on their relay for two years, and is generally rated a very fair quarter-miler.

In the short distance Pendleton will be depended upon to uphold them, and though he has been beaten by Kemper, the local wizard, on several occasions, he is improving rapidly and may turn the tables in the projected dual meet. Central has five mainstays in Kemper, Dick, Schmitt, Birch and McDonald, to the last of whom the weight events are very generally conceded.

The Alexandrians boys will send down a squad of five men to represent them at the big Southern meet at Charlottesville on April 20. These men will take part in the open events. The idea of running a relay has been practically abandoned.

GEORGETOWN RELAY TURNER MATCHED WITH ROY MACKEY

MAY NOT COMPETE

Little Prospect That Team Will Be Sent to Penn's Carnival.

Preps. Think They Could Win Championship of Country.

According to the latest developments, Georgetown University will be represented in the annual open games of the University of Pennsylvania, which are to be held on Franklin Field the latter part of this month.

Whether Georgetown will have a relay team in the meet has not been decided as yet, but it is practically an assured fact that the Blue and Gray will have men in the open events. The Pennsylvania management is particularly anxious to have the Georgetown relay team in competition on that day, and has sent letters to that effect.

Little Hope Now.

Such a move on the part of Georgetown seems at present to be out of the question, for two of the men who ran on the team which defeated Virginia and won the indoor championship of the South are now busily engaged with the baseball team and their services could not very easily be spared. Both Captain Montgomery and Devine, of the track team, have made good at baseball and form a good part of the Blue and Gray's twirling staff. This leaves only O'Boyle and Cohen with practically no other promising material in the school.

O'Boyle will more than likely be sent to compete in the sprints, and it would not be at all surprising to see Jimmy Cohen accompany him as a running mate in this event. O'Boyle has been out on the track at Georgetown for the past five days, and has shown excellent form. In a time trial Thursday the former football star was caught at 33 for a quarter. This is fast time when the short time he has had for training is taken into consideration. Cohen has not done any work since the indoor season, but with the Philadelphia trip in view expects to get out for strenuous work Monday.

Preps Have a Scheme.

The Georgetown Preps are more than anxious to send a team to the Pennsylvania carnival for the preparatory school events. They are now seeking faculty permission to make the trip. Captain Mohr thinks his relay team would stand an excellent chance to win the national preparatory championship, as this year it has beaten at the Georgetown Prep records. With Captain Mohr, Martin, Smith, and Gibbs the local lads would put up in Philadelphia a great fight. Smith, in the low hurdles, would be another entry of the Preps. No former Preparatory team has made the Philadelphia trip, and it is doubtful whether this one will go. Nevertheless, an effort is to be made.



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SHEEPSHEAD BAY RACE TRACK, April 13.—The track watchers here are tabbing the likely horses with a view to being up to date when the season opens, and their lists show several two-year-olds that will this year carry the colors of Sam Emery, the Wall Street man, whose silks were borne to victory by Dry Monopole in the first Brooklyn Handicap ever run, twenty years ago.

Emery is coming back to the turf with all the enthusiasm that marked his first appearance, and he hopes to make a success of the venture. Andy Blakely, the former jockey, is handling the Emery horses. The string numbers sixteen, and on looks, at least, they appear destined to achieve a large measure of success.

They were purchased almost without regard to price at the various yearling sales last summer, and all passed the winter safely. Blakely has had them out for two or three weeks, and the entire string is now rounding into racing form, apparently being pointed for the early meetings, although the youngsters are all well engaged and the better ones may be reserved for the more important races to come later on. In the old days Emery was one of the heaviest turf operators on the Eastern circuit, generally as a layer of odds.

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